

# Routes to tour in Germany

## The Rheingold Route

German roads will get you there — to the Rhine, say, where it flows deep in the valley and is at its most beautiful. Castles perched on top of what, at times, are steep cliffs are a reminder that even in the Middle Ages the Rhine was of great importance as a waterway. To this day barges chug up and down the river with their cargoes. For those who are in more of a hurry the going is faster on the autobahn that runs alongside the river. But from Koblenz to

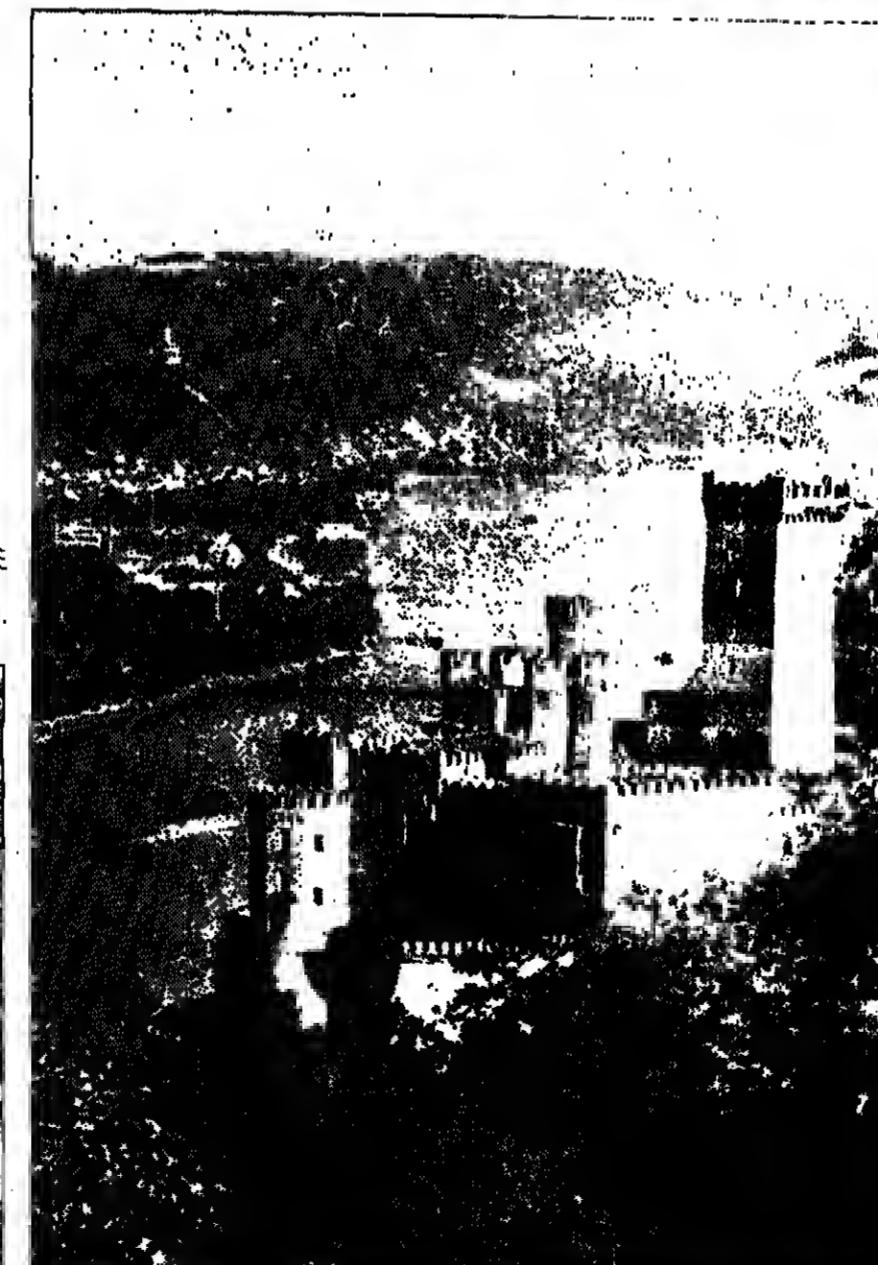
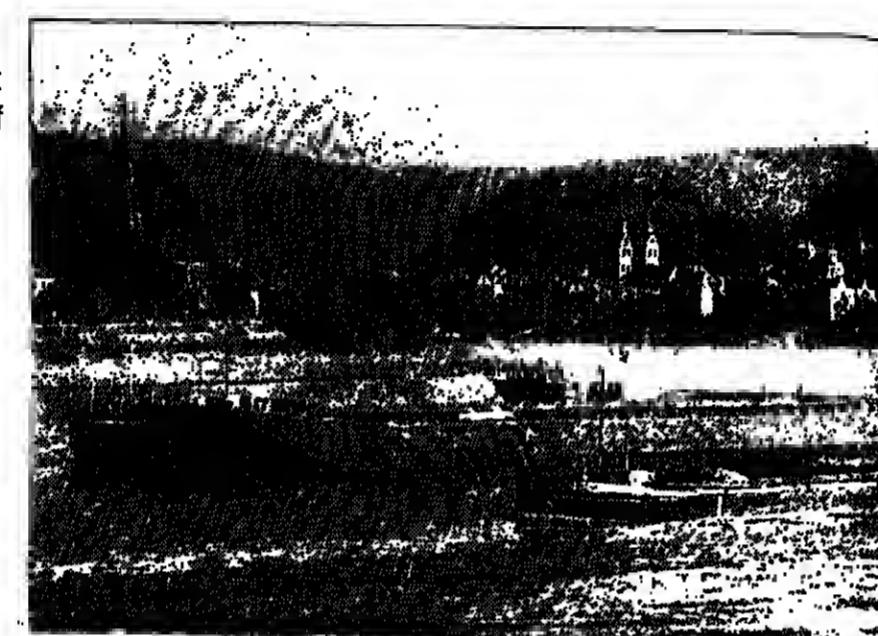
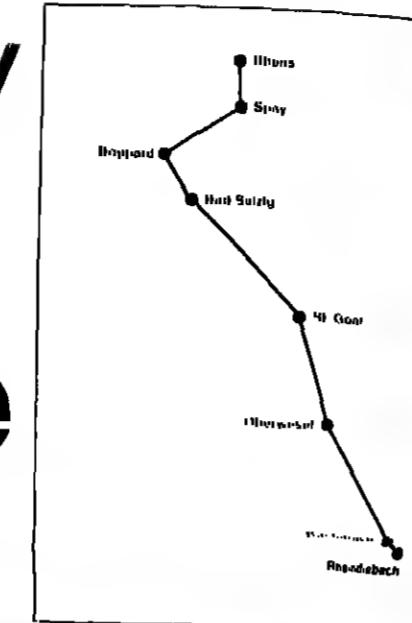
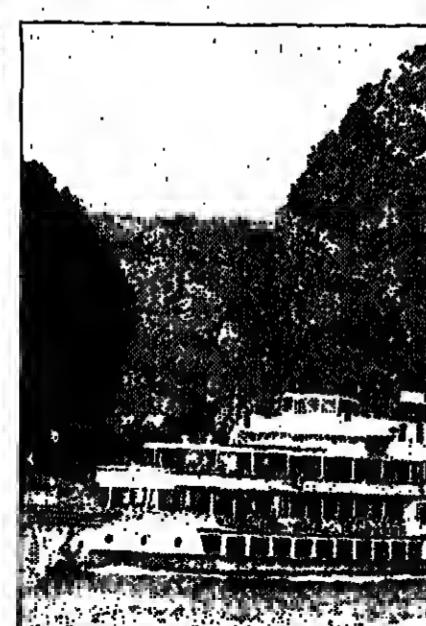
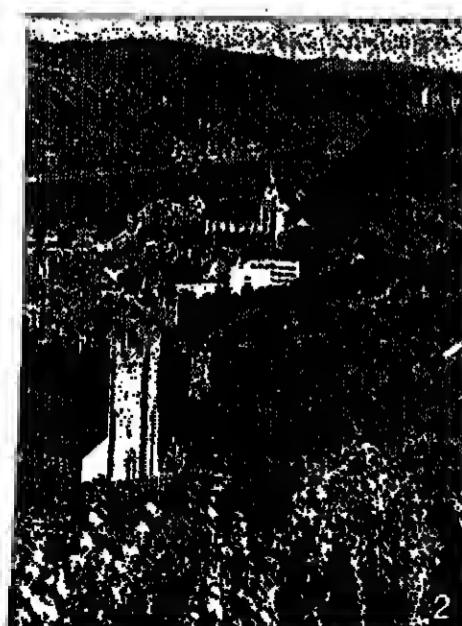
Bingen you must take the Rheingold Route along the left bank and see twice as much of the landscape. Take the chairlift in Boppard and enjoy an even better view. Stay the night at Rheinfels Castle in St Goar with its view of the Loreley Rock on the other side. And stroll round the romantic wine village of Bacharach.

Visit Germany and let the Rheingold Route be your guide.



- 1 Bacharach
- 2 Oberwesel
- 3 The Loreley Rock
- 4 Boppard
- 5 Stolzenfels Castle

DZT DEUTSCHE ZENTRALE  
FÜR TOURISMUS EV.  
Beethovenstrasse 69, D-6000 Frankfurt/M.



# The German Tribune

Hamburg, 7 June 1987  
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## The Queen assures Berlin it does not stand alone



Queen Elizabeth has reaffirmed Britain's commitment to help maintain Berlin's freedom and security.

She did so at a reception in the Orangerie of Charlottenburg Castle shortly after her arrival in Berlin for celebrations to mark the city's 750th anniversary.

The Queen said her presence was a further testimony to Britain's determination to maintain its support, which was, she said, as strong as ever, for as long as it was needed.

Having first visited the city in 1965, she recalled to an audience of about 400 what had since been achieved in Berlin — and "not merely in respect of its external transformation into a more flourishing and more beautiful city."

Berlin's ties with the West, especially with the Federal Republic of Germany, and with the European Community had been further strengthened and intensified.

Due to the efforts of the people of Berlin and to the firm backing and generous support of the Federal Republic the city's reputation as a centre of the arts, of scientific research and of high technology will continually on the increase.

Confidence in the future was, she said, a prerequisite of further progress. It was a confidence that could only be gained in a climate of stability.

So the main aim of the three Western protecting powers must be to ensure that a climate prevailed in which the freedom and security of the city could be guaranteed.

"Today this task is performed in harmony and in close cooperation with the Federal German and the Berlin authorities," the Queen said, "and it is essential for the city's future that this continues to be the case."

She recalled in her address the very longstanding friendship that linked Britain and Germany, especially Berlin. Frederick the Great, whose spirit filled

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Charlottenburg Castle, had been a loyal ally of Britain's, so it was appropriate "on this occasion and in these rooms to recall the city's great past."

Might the dreadful division be surmounted in the spirit of Berlin's long tradition of tolerance and the city that today symbolised the division of Europe one day become the symbol of its unity?

Foreign Minister Genscher thanked the Queen for her country's firm and determined support of Berlin.

At the height of the Cold War the Berlin Wall had been built. It was still a bitter reality but now seemed like a vestige of another age, an age in which mention had yet to be made of Europe as a "common house."

It had also been a time when the Final Act had yet to be signed at Helsinki, setting the course for a European peace order.

Jointly with Great Britain, Herr Genscher said, the Federal Republic was working to bring about an improvement in East-West ties.

"We want, by means of dialogue,



A royal occasion: the Queen (centre) in Berlin with, from left: Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh; Frau Marianne von Weizsäcker, wife of Bonn President Richard von Weizsäcker; Herr von Weizsäcker; and the Mayor of West Berlin, Eberhard Diepgen.

(Photo: Sven Simon)

cooperation and disarmament, to give Europe greater security and stability by putting into practice the rights the people of Europe were promised in the Final Act at Helsinki."

Every move that improved the situation in Europe also served to improve the position of Germans in East and West. German policy was and would remain

a policy of peace in Europe. Governing Mayor Diepgen, who also thanked the Queen for Britain's commitment to Berlin, advanced a common approach to East-West dialogue.

"We will only succeed if we in the West arrive in and advocate a joint position," he said.

Despite division the need for a joint approach was most keenly felt in Berlin. Confidence-building, security and cooperation were needed nowhere more badly than in Berlin.

Nowhere was their practical implementation more effective for the people and parties concerned in East and West.

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, arrived at RAF Gatow in the late afternoon of 26 May, being welcomed by the British ambassador in Bonn, Sir Julian Bullard, the British commanding officer in Berlin, General Brooking, the Governing Mayor and the US and French commanding officers.

## ■ WORLD AFFAIRS

## Uncomfortable facts of life give Nato new challenges

**DIE WELT**  
WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE

Two things have emerged since the Brussels spring conference of 14 North Atlantic Defence Ministers.

First, Nato will need to invest much more heavily in conventional defence now it can no longer rely on nuclear security. Nuclear weapons are cheaper but there are many — mainly irrational — grounds against them.

Second, there are increasing signs that the United States is turning its back on Europe.

Congressional readiness to continue stationing more than 300,000 US servicemen in Europe, as America has done for decades, seems to be in the wane.

Europeans would then face the problem of bridging the military gap. This challenge could hardly come at a more inconvenient moment.

The Bundeswehr, as the backbone of European conventional defence, will soon have virtually insuperable difficulty in maintaining manpower at its present level.

The final communiqué of the two-day Nato Ministerial conference dealt with these topics strictly in the customary language of diplomacy. In other words, it sought to conceal them rather than to bring them out into the open.

Yet at one point it did not quite succeed: when Nato referred to the solution-defining task of concentrating, in a fresh round of disarmament talks, "on the elimination of the serious imbalance in conventional forces and their fighting strength in the Warsaw Pact's favour and on the ability to stage a surprise attack and large-scale offensive moves."

None of the Defence Ministers who met in Brussels was able to explain how this was to be achieved.

Yet they all realise that with Europe denied of longer-range intermediate US nuclear forces (as a result of the double zero option) the psychological and political importance of Soviet super-

Continued from page 1

Ferdinand of Prussia, in the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church.

She then walked round the city centre and visited Federal President Richard von Weizsäcker at his Berlin official residence, Schloss Bellevue.

In making this gesture the Queen followed the example set by President Mitterrand of France, who paid his respects to the Federal President at Schloss Bellevue on 11 May. He was the first visiting head of state to do so.

Other members of the British royal family are to visit Berlin during its 750th anniversary celebration. The Queen Mother is expected from 7 to 9 July.

Princess Anne will be visiting the city on 20 and 21 July as honorary colonel of the Queen's Own Hussars.

Prince Charles and Princess Diana are due to visit Berlin on 1 November.

(*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 27 May 1987)

riority in non-nuclear military potential will increase.

They are also well aware that the Kremlin appreciates the fact, and it is hard to see why Moscow should have stopped meeting in the same week and at the same venue as Defence Ministers.

The West would very much like the Soviet Union to do so, but it has no incentive at its disposal that might interest the Soviet Union in reducing its capacity. Nuclear weapons are cheaper but there are many — mainly irrational — grounds against them.

Far from it: since Mr Gorbachov has held the reins in Moscow the Soviet Union has been felt in the West to be ready to disarm.

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disarmament talks, with the hope principle.

Credible defences must be maintained, and there will be "no alternative in the foreseeable future" to forward defence and to the alliance's flexible response strategy.

This view is shared by Nato Defence Ministers only. What Foreign Ministers feel, or how governments as a whole see the position, is vaguer than ever.

There seems to be more than mere skin-deep significance in the fact that Nato Foreign Ministers have stopped meeting in the same week and at the same venue as Defence Ministers.

In years gone by there was a week of Nato gatherings in Brussels, with Defence Ministers starting the ball rolling and Foreign Ministers concluding the proceedings. This combination testified to continuity and, arguably, even to harmony.

Ever since, America has regularly called on its partners in Europe to help protect the oil route.

The American argument at the time was that Europe and Japan buy much more Gulf oil than the United States. They still do, although reliance on oil in general has since declined.

The argument then against deploying Nato forces in the Gulf was that the area is not part of the territory covered by the terms of the North Atlantic Treaty.

That argument is still valid.

The government must know what it itself wants before it can talk with its allies. But it doesn't. There are differences of opinion between the CDU and the CSU; within the CDU; within the CSU; and, above all, between them both and the FDP and Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, who is an FDP man.

Genscher has used the issue to boost his own and his party's image. The FDP was adept at polishing its image by pushing "liberal legal and interior policies".

But there is now less mileage in that so Genscher has turned to "peacekeeping via disarmament". It has worked. The FDP did well in the general election and gained votes in state elections last month.

The possibility of gaining one or two additional percentage points during the election by promoting this new image was apparently given priority over any misgivings about a foreign policy line which could lead to a nuclear-free zone in Central Europe and thus unavoidably undermine Nato's strategy of flexible response.

It is another matter for countries such as Britain, which as a former world and colonial power has entirely different traditions.

Defence Secretary Wehrberger will have borne these points in mind when, with a measure of restraint, Amerika's allies to lend the United States a hand in the Gulf.

A far more important issue is, however, whether stepping up military commitments is the right approach.

The Gulf states themselves, although they may feel themselves to be the by far and its repercussions, not take kindly to the idea of foreign military in the region.

They see an attendant risk of being dragged into a clash between the two powers.

A more meaningful approach would be for the United States to be more keenly at cooperation with the Soviet Union, but how, as individual countries progressively drift apart, is closer economic cooperation to be effectively put into practice?

If this were to be the approach, it would effectively bring to an end the threat to "vital interests" in the Arabian Gulf.

The attempt by Bonn Defence Minister, Manfred Wörner, and the heads of the CDU/CSU parliamentary party to commit the party to a common stance lies to the single zero option, but no to any other additional zero which might lead towards an unwanted "denuclearisation" also failed.

For months Washington, London and Paris stated that they would heed the German voice when the decision has to be taken over how to continue disarmament policy — beyond the single zero solution.

The idea that Bonn would have to coordinate its decision with its allies was undoubtedly correct.

However, such consultations can only be fruitful if they begin with a clear concept.

Paris and London could only infer from the babble of voices in the Federal Republic that clarity was not to be expected from Bonn and that it would be better to make self-interest the guiding principle.

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## Who should do what to protect oil route

**WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE**

When fighting between Iran and Iraq began in 1980 and oil shipments came under threat, President Carter referred to vital US interests in the Gulf and a rapid deployment force was set up.

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## Who should do what to protect oil route

### Coalition at sixes and sevens on disarmament

Bonn has missed an opportunity to ensure that its interests are fully articulated in the alliance.

In the meantime, the Western Europeans have again turned to Washington.

At the latest since Secretary of State George Shultz visited Moscow it has become clear that Washington supports, at least in principle, a double-zero solution.

During the Land elections in Rhineland-Palatinate and Hamburg the CDU paid the price at home for foreign policy confusion.

After offering the electorate a policy line with a clear orientation the CDU also seems to have cast its security policy reservations to the wind.

The CDU business manager, Heiner Geissler, without naming names, criticised colleagues who he said were creating the impression that the party was an "armaments party" because of their attitudes towards disarmament proposals.

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Genscher has used the issue to boost his own and his party's image. The FDP was adept at polishing its image

The US and Soviet ambassadors to Bonn, Richard Burt and Yuli Kvitsinsky, have only recently got to know each other better after nearly a year of brief encounters at diplomatic functions.

Mr Burt, who has been in Bonn longer, invited Mr Kvitsinsky down from Victoria to the US embassy by the Rhine for dinner.

The visit is soon to be returned. The two men have been taking their time, just like their superiors in Washington and Moscow, but they are making closer contact.

They could hardly differ more strikingly as individuals. Mr Burt is tall and slim, which he underlines by dressing well and clearly enjoys public appearances, especially glamorous social ones.

Mr Kvitsinsky is short and squat. If appearance is any guide he is sound and

## ■ PEOPLE

# A story of two nations, two ambassadors and two styles

uptake and don't always have the discipline to weigh their words before saying them.

Both occasionally go on the rhetorical attack or to indulge in an impromptu flight of repartee when restraint might be more appropriate.

Both have made breathtaking progress in their careers and are top experts on arms control, especially in the strategic context.

Both find it hard to conceal the fact that they represent superpowers beside which all others are a lesser breed.

Yet both have now gone to some lengths to promote understanding for their host countries back home.

Mr Burt and Mr Kvitsinsky may both at times have caused German annoyance with their attitudes as great power representatives.

Frequent mention was made of the term "high commissioners", but those days now seem to belong to a dim and distant past. That is a lesson both have learnt.

Referring to the activity of the US ambassador in the Federal Republic an American news magazine recently wondered whether Mr Burt might possibly have "gone native" in Germany. He had, after all, even taken Secretary of State Shultz to task.

Serenely and without the slightest trace of irony Mr Burt handled round the magazine article on board the

plane that took him and Foreign Minister Genscher to Washington for consultations and back.

Everyone was appreciative; no-one felt the tenor of the article was in any way malicious.

Should similar suspicions of Mr Kvitsinsky have been voiced in the Soviet Union they have yet to be aired by the media. Yet the Soviet ambassador in Bonn has outlined pleasing prospects for German-Soviet relations.

He did so in writing at a time when official opinion in Moscow was still most upset by Chanceller Kohl's comparison, in a *Newsweek* interview, of Gorbatchov and Goebbels.

Mr Kvitsinsky makes no bones about his intention of helping bilateral ties to make headway.

Richard Burt was appointed ambassador without diplomatic experience, as is frequently possible in the United States.

After university he progressed to become, in the mid-1970s, deputy director of the highly-regarded London Institute of Strategic Studies, then switched to the *New York Times*, where he was the staff armaments expert.

Few were surprised when he moved from the *New York Times* to the State Department, where he was appointed head of the department in charge of political and military affairs.

At the State Department he took over, as a Republican and leading expert in his field, from an equally distinguished Democrat who had worked for the *Washington Post*.

But unlike his predecessor Mr Burt soon gained promotion to under-secretary at the age of 35.

What then prompted him to apply for the Bonn ambassadorship in succession to the aged Arthur Burns? Was it curiosity to learn more about the Federal Republic as a cornerstone of the North Atlantic pact on the borderline between East and West? Or was he tired of a grinding government job in Washington?

Did he no longer feel like crossing swords with the other Richard in the Reagan administration, Richard Perle or the Pentagon, or was he keen on a better-paid job with a view to starting a family?

It took a number of strong hints from the Bonn Foreign Office to remind him of diplomatic proprieties and persuade him to exercise restraint.

He regularly shows signs of ridicule and irony, with occasional sarcasm and cynicism, even if they are only in the glint in his eyes behind glasses with tinted lenses.

But the political line pursued by his Party leader now predominates in determining his behaviour. He advocates and works for better relations and is keeping with the Soviet slogan, "glare not," he has made the Soviet embassy an open and more accessible.

That being said, neither he nor his staff are anywhere near as community or unconventionally easy to get on with as the Americans in general, Mr Burt in particular.

So it was only logical for him to be attached to the Soviet delegation that negotiated the Four-Power Agreement on Berlin.

Western diplomats came to know him better at the Four-Power talks as a di-

plomat equally well versed in the language and in legal and political affairs.

They found him shrewd and astute, imaginative and well briefed on the most recent details of German affairs.

It was far more in keeping with his career for him to be sent to Bonn a year in 1978 than to be transferred three years later to Geneva, where he negotiated with the United States on intermediate-range nuclear arms limitation.

One explanation may be that Foreign Minister Gromyko recalled his negotiating skill — although he then failed to make full use of it.

The "walk in the woods" formula tentatively agreed with chief US delegate Paul Nitze was rejected both in Moscow and in Washington.

Mr Kvitsinsky was recalled from Geneva and sent back to Bonn as am-



The glamorous maids at the table... ambassadors Burt (left) and Kvitsinsky.

At the table, Mr Burt wanted to come to Bonn. Mr Kvitsinsky was ordered to do so. Like his mentor, Mr Gromyko, he is keenly aware of Moscow's great power status.

At the table, he talked with Americans to day-to-day diplomatic ties with the Germans this imperial attitude assumed the proportion of the arrogate.

In an interview with a popular German newspaper, for instance, he criticised the Federal government. At a public appearance he criticised the policies pursued by the West.

As a guest at a specialist gathering of security affairs he indulged in polemics, barefacedly manipulating facts and figures.

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## DER TAGES SPIEGEL

reliable rather than exquisite in his tastes.

He tends to shun the limelight rather than seek it, and as for the full glare of publicity, he seems decidedly reluctant to step forward.

Impressions may be deceptive but Mr Burt looks as though he finds it hard to suppress a smile when he sees Mr Kvitsinsky in full uniform at a major diplomatic occasion.

Germans too may tend to feel that gala uniforms as worn by Soviet diplomats make them look like funeral directors in full attire.

Yet the two men have a great deal in common. They are both quick on the

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## ■ PERSPECTIVE

# Weakened peace movement loses capacity to jam the streets with protesters

*Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger*

struation is planned in Bonn on 13 June, the momentum and drive of those years have vanished. There are many reasons.

The protests come to mind because of the dispute now over disarmament as the Bonn government and the coalition partners muddle their way leisurely through the missiles maze and squabble over zeros and double-zeros.

This time there is no wave of protest to push them one way or the other. But back in summer 1981, autumn 1982 and 1983, the peace movement had little trouble mobilising huge numbers of people to take to the streets in protest at the *Nato* missiles decision.

An extraparliamentary lobby emerged which brought Helmut Schmidt's, and then Helmut Kohl's, government under pressure, triggering what many referred to as a "crisis of legitimacy".

The fact that Chancellor Kohl employed the catchy slogan *Frieden schafft weniger Waffen* (Create Peace through Fewer Weapons) in 1982 reflected how seriously the government took the protests.

The fading cry of extraparliamentary opposition in a time when a reduction in the number of missiles seems a clear possibility for the first time in decades bears testimony to the political and social changes in Germany.

As opposed to the early 1980s, the demands of the peace movement are now incorporated in party manifestos. Both the SPD and Greens call for a reduction of missiles.

The former extraparliamentary opposition against the arms race, therefore, has been "parliamentarised" in the undoubtedly detriment of the peace movement.

Now that this step towards disarmament is within reach they are demanding total disarmament.

Other sections of the movement,

above all the anarcho-autonomists

groups, seek to forge links with the anti-nuclear movement, whose main action focuses on the nuclear fuel reprocessing plant in Wackersdorf.

So, is there nothing left for the peace movement? The movement shares responsibility for breaking down security policy fronts in the Federal Republic and making disarmament an issue for conservative governments too.

The movement, however, then "spread out" and disintegrated into thousands of separate initiatives and, above all religious (mainly Protestant) groups.

These groups discuss the links between the arms race in highly industrialised societies and poverty in the Third World.

A new political culture has evolved which was inconceivable a few years ago. The permanent apartheid discussion is just one example.

Although the impact of the peace movement may not be as visible as it was three or four years ago it has left a more discernible mark on the Federal Republic of Germany.

*Heinz Verfürth*  
(*Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger*, Cologne, 26 May 1987)

Continued from page 3

government in 1982 are just two examples.

The fate of foreign policy is much more significant for Germans than for other nations.

The clash between East and West has cemented the division of Germany.

The security and stability of the Federal Republic of Germany depend on the country's integration in the free world.

Our prosperity is inconceivable without the politico-economic unification of Europe.

If fundamental foreign policy decisions are made contingent upon the deliberations of party-political parties there is reason to be concerned about the our country's future.

*Christian Nommensen*  
(*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*  
für Deutschland, 27 May 1987)

cial basis for the social security system?

Will a census introduce greater rationality in politics?

All this remains to be seen.

Despite continuing scepticism, which cannot be eliminated by the assuring words of Bonn president Richard von Weizsäcker, there are nevertheless special and general reasons to accept the census.

Although its benefit is not certain it is very unlikely to have an adverse effect on individual citizens.

The state will not find out anything it is not allowed to, and, in all probability, very little about what is does not already know.

Bearing this in mind, and in view of the fact that the various branches of the insurance sector have incomparably more information on individuals in its computerised data files, the fuss about anonymity does seem rather absurd.

One gains the impression that some citizens are hiding from the state as if it were a leviathan.

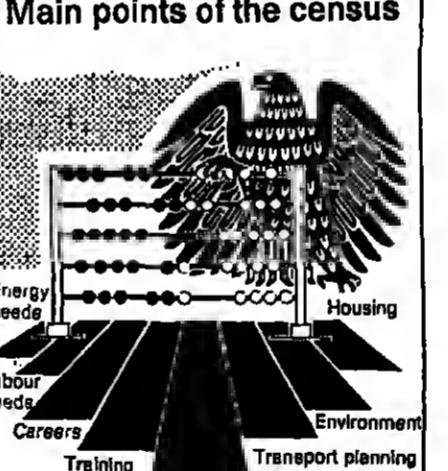
Admittedly, with the support of the electronic media the state today could become as dangerous as Thomas Hobbes' mythical monster. Vigilance is expedient.

The census, however, is not the occasion to turn this vigilance into mistrust.

Unjustified mistrust can weaken and destroy, making us blind to the moment when it might be more appropriate to say stop.

*Werner Hill*  
(*Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt*,  
Hamburg, 24 May 1987)

## Main points of the census



Many people would find it difficult to agree with Hegel that the state is the "realisation of the moral idea".

Politicians also make it difficult for us to share the philosopher's conviction that the state is an "in-itself-reasonable" institution.

Yet our state so immoral or unreasonable that its citizens need keep a deeply mistrustful eye on its activities?

What indication is there that the second German republic, which was built on the ruins of the Third Reich and in the result of great efforts for freedom and human dignity, has succumbed to the temptation of power or could inflict the harm latent in all forms of power?

Whatever the census may bring, one thing is already obvious: the relationship between many West Germans and their state is strained.

There are several reasons why citizens

should be sceptical towards the state.

Those politicians who emphasise

## ■ THE WORKFORCE

## Cash crisis threatens to hit unemployment aid

The Federal Labour Office, Nuremberg, expects to overspend by up to DM1 bn this year on unemployment. Its budget is DM34.3bn. Next year, it says, unemployment insurance will no longer be able to meet its costs from contributions and reserves.

**Ursula Engelen-Kefer**, vice-president of the Federal Labour Office, Nuremberg, and a member of the SPD's national executive, says her agency, which runs the country's labour exchanges, has reached the end of its tether, both financial and manpower.

As none of the main participants in the unemployment insurance scheme were prepared to pay higher contributions toward combating unemployment, the emphasis would have to be on concentrating vocational training and job creation activities on problem groups and regions.

**Frau Engelen-Kefer**, who jointly with Anke Fuchs of the SPD presidium commented on labour market trends in the Federal Republic at a press conference in the SPD's central office in Bonn, said economic trends over the past three years had failed to make any great impression on unemployment.

About one third of the new jobs

created were the result of extra labour market and welfare measures and of shorter working weeks and earlier retirement.

Expansion of job creation programmes had reduced by between 300,000 and 380,000 a year the number of people out of work.

This year the Federal Labour Office would be spending over DM9bn on vocational training and job creation schemes.

These activities were universally welcomed, especially the vocational training schemes, but they were so popular that they were costing the agency more than it had budgeted for.

Given that there has been an economic downturn since last autumn, Frau Engelen-Kefer expects the Nuremberg agency to pay out more in unemployment benefit and short-time bonuses than it had expected this year.

A further problem was that everyone expected it to help ease the burden of the structural crises in mining, steel and shipbuilding and in areas of high unemployment.

The financial strain on the agency's resources increased as a result, yet neither employers nor employees were prepared to pay higher contributions

to enable it to extend the range and scope of its activities.

This being so, all the agency could do was consolidate its labour market activities at a high level, including qualitative improvement and greater concentration on problem groups.

Vocational training and job creation schemes could never take the place of flanking measures to create and safeguard jobs with a future, she said.

What now mattered was to persuade private and public-sector employers to invest more time and money in job qualification measures launched by unemployment insurance contributors and labour exchanges.

Anke Fuchs said the Federal Labour Office was no longer in a position to offset Federal government economic

### Süddeutsche Zeitung

and financial policies she felt were inadequate.

Financial resources had been exhausted, leaving only the option of a qualitative improvement in further training and retraining schemes.

Greater store must be set by training schemes at work, where employers had in recent years tended to leave too much to the labour exchanges.

Social Democratic employment policy proposals, Frau Fuchs said, had gained in relevance in the wake of latest labour market trends.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 26 May 1987)

**The author, Professor Gerhard Fels, Director of the institute for the German economy (IW) in Cologne, wrote this article for *DIE WELT*.**

**International statistics show the Federal Republic of Germany to have had the world's second-highest labour costs last year. Only in Switzerland were costs higher.**

The average hourly wage in manufacturing industry was DM31.42. In major competing countries labour costs are substantially lower.

In the United States they are over two marks, in Japan six marks, in Italy and France eight and nine marks and in Britain nearly DM14 lower.

Exchange rates naturally play a key role in international comparisons of labour costs. The cost of labour affects both employment levels and trends within an economy.

The continued high level of unemployment in the Federal Republic shows that labour costs still need adjusting.

Wage talks would do the unemployed a good turn if agreement were reached on minimum wages below the average level.

The necessary wage differentiation would then take place automatically via wage drift trends.

High wages have a less damaging effect on employment the more flexibly employers can react to cyclical or structural downturns by adjusting labour costs.

Legal and wage agreement safeguards prevent them from doing so in the Federal Republic. Companies are virtually unable to reduce wage bills by across-the-board wage cuts.

Wages and most supplemental costs are fixed costs as far as companies are concerned. So when demand declines, layoffs are the only option (apart, that is, from short time).

## What high labour costs mean for an industrialised society

Redundancies can be extremely difficult, not to say expensive, given labour law and wage agreement provisions.

Assuming redundancies are not ruled out entirely by special arrangements, redundancies of any size must negotiate redundancy agreement when layoffs exceed a certain percentage of their pay-roll.

Redundancy packages and severance pay can be very expensive, seriously handicapping a company's further development.

An additional burden is imposed by the time employers and works councils

take to negotiate settlements of this kind.

Employers' social security contributions account for the lion's share: 22.4 per cent.

That shows what an influence government policies, such as health and pensions, can have on wage and labour costs.

Health and pensions policies must in future be aimed more than in the past at preventing any further increase in supplementary wage bills.

High supplementary costs boost the "black" or parallel economy, in which a straight wage is paid, with no extras.

Small and medium-sized firms are the main losers when illegal employment increases. It is particularly rife in the trades and the construction industry, where small firms are the rule.

So economic policies geared to forestall further increases in supplementary wage costs are policies from which the middle class, as small- and medium-scale employers, will tend to benefit.

The institute says there is a trend toward more people who have left such inflexible trades changing careers.

(Handelsblatt, Düsseldorf, 14 May 1987)

### DIE WELT

Wochenschrift für Politik und Kultur

Wochenschrift für Politik

## ■ FINANCE

## Competition produces energy-efficient household electrical appliances

Although low crude oil prices now mean that energy-saving measures are not quite as urgent as they were in the oil-crisis year, they nevertheless still do play a certain part in commerce. Whole sectors of industry now use energy-saving equipment.

The technical possibilities of energy-saving are far from exhausted. A good example of this is electrical home appliances.

One of the largest manufacturers of home appliances, Bosch-Siemens-Hausgeräte (BSHG) of Munich, report in detail on energy-saving measures.

BSHG chairman Helmut Plettner said that home appliances used up 3.7 per cent of prime energy supplies, a relatively small amount, but saving energy in electrical equipment for the home was of great importance.

Home appliances used up 29 per cent of electrical power production — the main consumer, of course, being industry with 50 per cent.

Forty-four per cent of the electrical power used for home appliances is consumed by refrigerators and deep-freezes, dishwashers and washing machines.

Small electrically-powered units account for 11 per cent of consumption and water heaters for 13 per cent. Electrical central heating accounts for 21 per cent of power used.

Manufacturers of electrical home appliances promised the Economic Affairs Ministry in 1980 that within eight years the industry would reduce power consumption in electric cookers by 3 per cent and by 20 per cent for refrigerators and freezers.

With obvious satisfaction Plettner re-

*Frankfurter Allgemeine*

ports that these savings and more have been achieved.

The most saving has been made in deep-freezes — 36.8 per cent; then dishwashers with 28.9 per cent, refrigerators 21.5 per cent, washing machines with 17.6 per cent and electric cookers with 15.7 per cent.

Average savings achieved are 21.3 per cent of electricity consumption.

Plettner emphasised that these satisfactory results could only be achieved by well-functioning competitiveness in the industry and the application of technical measures, which had allowed the industry to make great strides in energy economies.

These new Bosch machines can also be operated with less washing-up liquid, less noise and in a smaller area, Fuhrmann said.

The savings rate Bosch has achieved with its appliances such as refrigerators and freezers is 22.3 per cent, one percentage point better than the average achieved by the industry as a whole in West Germany.

Last year 2.35 million dishwashers were sold in Western Europe, 630,000 of these in the Federal Republic of Germany. In the United States of America 3.92 million units were sold.

Sixty-one per cent of dishwashers produced in West Germany last year, 932,000 units, were exported. Fuhrmann claimed that BSHG had a very large share of this export business.

He is confident about the dishwasher market's future because only one in every three West German households has one.

Market saturation is up to 95 per cent for refrigerators, 92 per cent for washing machines and 78 per cent for electric cookers.

Bosch dishwashers require 59 per cent less water than similar machines needed in 1970. Today dishwashers use 38 per cent less water than washing-up hand.

Ten years ago consumers had to pay out DM70m more for electrical power for such machines than is required for the new machines of today.

These new Bosch machines can also be operated with less washing-up liquid, less noise and in a smaller area, Fuhrmann said.

(*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* für Deutschland, 25 May 1987)

## Optimism about the market for consumer durables

The outlook for the electrical home appliances industry seems bright despite a growth reduction, says Cummerhank.

Manufacturers expect growth of about 2.5 per cent although prices remained stable.

The continued strength of the mark, mainly against the dollar, and weaker demand in neighbouring European countries will affect the export trade. There is bound to be a drop in business abroad this year.

Last year there was an industry increase in exports of 10 per cent but this year it is estimated the increase will only be between three and four per cent.

The electrical appliances industry is mainly against the dollar, and weaker demand in neighbouring European countries will affect the export trade. There is bound to be a drop in business abroad this year.

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In view of improved wage earnings in the Federal Republic and increased consumer demand, attention will be switched to domestic demand.

The average German household has about 20 different electrical appliances

Higher incomes have favourably influenced consumers' preparedness to purchase long-life consumer durables.

This has caused an increase in domestic sales of 2.5 per cent although prices remained stable.

There was an increase of five per cent in the sales of large electrical appliances such as refrigerators and freezers. Smaller electrical home equipment increased only one per cent after very favourable market developments in 1985.

Night storage heaters did not do so well and sales last year dropped three per cent.

The electrical appliances industry expanded its production by 9.1 per cent 12 per cent. This represents about one per cent of production in the electrical engineering industry.

The average German household has about 20 different electrical appliances

## ■ INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION

## Tempting bacteria to eat plastic bags

Environment was the keynote of this year's Interpack trade fair in Düsseldorf, with striking differences among the 1,887 exhibitors.

Glass, for instance, is clearly staging a comeback, with more and more people — and not just eco-freaks — buying milk in returnable bottles.

The milk bottle, which has a life expectancy equivalent to that of about 40 milk cartons or sachets, is already earning some packaging manufacturers good money.

Consumers should exchange their appliances earlier than before for environmental protection grounds or to gain economies in running them. The trade and industry complain, however, that people still hang on to their old appliances until they give up the ghost before purchasing new ones.

(*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* für Deutschland, 25 May 1987)



Glass goes round more often than plastic.  
(Photo: Osnabrücker Messgesellschaft)

costs that would otherwise arise in gas or oil to burn the waste. One manufacturer at Düsseldorf planned to reduce not the energy consumption but the time it takes plastic bags to biodegrade on the garbage tip.

They take 10 to 15 years to disintegrate as it is, depending on how many varieties of bacteria make the garbage tip their home. That, he argues, is too long.

If his plan works the new generation of plastic bags will start to be digested by bacteria in 15 weeks. The plastic includes an admixture of bait; substances that tempt the bacteria to take a nibble. But

many critics argue that plastic bags use too much raw material and take too much energy to manufacture.

They usually forget that plastic bags save money at the other end of the garbage cycle: in the incinerator.

Large garbage incinerators need an admixture of plastic bags, which consist of over 90 per cent petroleum derivatives. Packagers see this as an opportunity

signed to give service until at least the turn of the century.

The location is nearly ideal, a stone's throw from the Hahn-Meitner nuclear research institute and the city's largest garbage tip with an estimated 11 million tonnes of waste.

The Senator of Economic Affairs and Transport commissioned in 1981 a survey on how much gas could be usefully extracted from the tip and what uses it could be put to.

The Hahn-Meitner Institute and the municipal electric power utility then joined forces to plan a technique by which to extract sewage gas from the tip.

Boreholes — 135 of them — are being drilled all over the site to tap as much gas as possible. The holes are 80cm in diameter and between 15 and 25 metres (50-80ft) deep.

They are lined with plastic pipes. The upper sections are airtight, the lower ones louvered to let the gas in. Hand-operated valves regulate the flow of gas to six mains.

These valves make it possible to individually adjust the flow of gas from each hole. The gas mains run to a central compressor station where three compressors extract the quantities required.

Each hole has separate switchgear. Pressure, gas temperature and methane, carbon dioxide and oxygen counts are constantly monitored.

To prevent atmospheric air from being extracted from the upper strata of the tip pressures have to be carefully adjusted.

The sewage gas extracted at temperatures of between 20° and 45° centigrade is 100-per-cent saturated in steam.

As the gas is chilled in the underground pipelines there is a certain amount of condensation. Pipes run on a gradient, so this liquid trickles down to the compressor station.

Chemical analysis at the Hahn-Meitner Institute has shown the sewage gas

Continued on page 11

## Private savings reach a record level

Personal savings increased heavily last year, says a report by the central bank, the Bundesbank.

It says DM15.5bn less was paid for private heating oil and natural gas than the year before.

Other reasons for the increased savings were higher wages and salaries, fewer unemployed and a drop in income tax along with other benefits such as cheaper imported goods.

The bank says many people did not expect the improved purchasing power. They had, therefore, not altered their consumption habits, but had given more attention to saving.

Total private savings increased last year to the record level of DM167bn, a 10 per cent increase over the previous year.

State-promoted savings schemes added another four billion marks to this last year giving a total of DM171bn (in 1985 the total was DM156bn).

Because of low interest rates investor behaviour changed markedly, so that private savings accounts and non-interest sight deposits increased in volume to DM13bn (DM5bn in the previous year).

The growth of liquid monetary hold-

ings exceeded all previous comparable levels and corresponded to a good third of total private savings."

There was continued interest in long-term savings as well. Life insurance profited from these favourable conditions mainly and people's increased cautious approach to life.

Other inducements to save came from employee pension schemes.

In total DM42bn (DM39bn in 1985) was placed in insurance and DM26bn (DM23bn) was placed with banks. There was again a drop in the amount placed in building societies of DM1.7bn (minus DM1.1bn in 1985).

Last year of total savings of DM171bn DM137bn was placed in financial assets — DM126bn in 1985 — and DM44bn (DM42bn) in the purchase of living accommodation.

Private borrowing accounted for DM10bn (DM12bn), so that the private savings balance was DM127bn (DM114bn).

There is a levelling off this year of the increase in private and company saving — company saving was DM77bn (DM51bn).

Despite the Bundesbank's delicate handling of the economy in April there was a marked increase in the money supply.

The central bank money supply exceeded the average position in the 4th quarter of 1986 with a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 7.8 per cent.

(*Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger*, Cologne, 21 May 1987)

The industry is putting a lot of its faith in the future in technical innovation and increased attention being paid by consumers to energy-saving appliances and an increased awareness of health and environmental aspects of household appliances.

The range of appliances available in the public extends from sun-tanning appliances to "ecology equipment" such as electrically-powered drinking water purifiers and home wheat grinders.

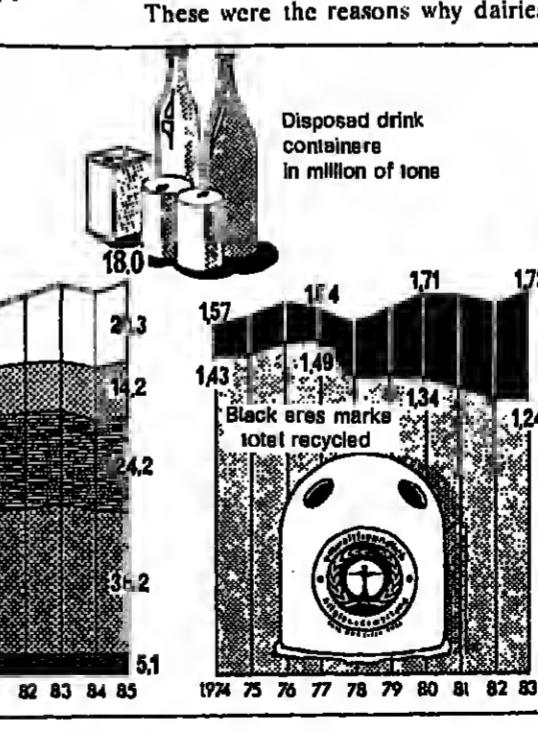
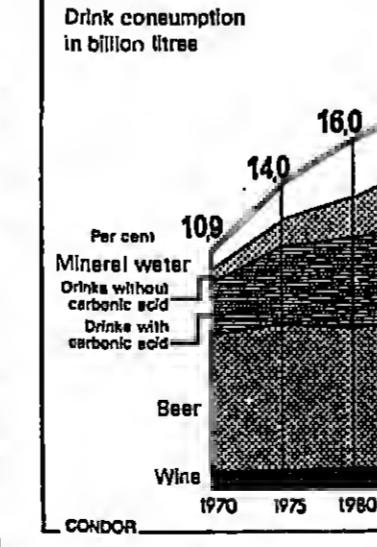
Generally speaking the industry concentrates on small, compact appliances such as mini-hair-dryers and mouthwash units in small travelling packs.

The industry trend is towards appliances that are easy-to-use and reliable, requiring few repairs, to appliances with more functions such as a coffee machine with a timer and a vacuum flask instead of a glass container, and greater security — irons with automatic switch-offs and cordless irons. Design is also playing a greater role.

(*Hamburger Abendblatt*, 25 May 1987)

### More drinks being sold but recycling cuts size of container dumps

#### Drink consumption in billion litres



(*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* für Deutschland, 16 May 1987)

## Pilot project to get power from garbage

By the end of the year Wannsee, Berlin, will have a working 10-megawatt biogas generator. A few months later, after trials, it will feed electric power generated from garbage gas into the grid.

The entire system, extracting and processing sewage gas, will be largely automatic. It is a pilot project designed to show that power generated in this way can be economic.

Above all, the municipal electric power utility points out, the environmental gain is sure to be substantial — even if it can't be quantified in marks and pence.

It will be one of about 50 installations in the Federal Republic of Germany that put sewage gas to good use, but the Berlin plant stands out from the rest in two respects.

It will be the largest facility of its kind and the first to purify the gas before harnessing it to generate power. It is de-

signed to give service until at least the turn of the century.

The location is nearly ideal, a stone's throw from the Hahn-Meitner nuclear research institute and the city's largest garbage tip with an estimated 11 million tonnes of waste.

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## ■ LITERATURE

## The conflicts of a novelist, rooted in the endless, empty Prussian forests

**Hannoversche Allgemeine**

When Hitler's Reich lay in ruins, many were happy to have novelist Ernst Wiechert, a brawler on problems of spiritual regeneration, around.

He was a man to be proud of, an aristocrat of the human mind who lived fearlessly. Without personal guilt he had lived through the "subservient times" as he called them.

He wrote in his biographical novel *Der Totenwolf*, "the shame of the Reich was not his shame." Was that really true?

Wiechert always displayed compassion and a courage to stand up for his beliefs. He never got mixed up with the Brown Shirts, although they strove to attract him. They saw in him a writer with a large following who seemed to be one of them.

His novels *Der Wald*, published in 1922, and *Der Totenwolf*, are full of the struggles of the "German soul." There was a swastika on the dust-cover of *Der Totenwolf*, published in 1924, that was not then a symbol of the state.

Wiechert says he was angry at this decoration to his book and protested in vain, as he described in his autobiography *Jahre und Zeiten*, published in 1949.

But there is no evidence of this protest. What is known is that Wiechert did give his approval to re-print the book in a major newspaper "under the single condition that he is not Jewish."

He saw nothing wrong in the Kapp Putsch of 1920 that was to relieve the

world of the madness of demagogery. In 1931 he was at home in the ultra-nationalist Fichte Society (named after philosopher Johann Gottlieb Fichte, 1762-1814) as long as this society distanced itself from politics and a world view or Weltanschauung. This circle also included people such as Hans Grimm, Frank Thress and Edwin Erich Dwinger.

World view and politics were points he was not prepared to discuss. He regarded a world view and politics as being too highly flavoured and distasteful to him, whose intellectual and poetic life was based on internal spiritual values.

He was much influenced by the endless, empty forests of the East Prussia of his youth. He was born, 100 years ago, near Sensburg. His father was a forester. He went to Königsberg and Berlin where, until 1933, he taught in a Gymnasium.

In his books Wiechert never tired of reviling large cities and the masses. He was always worried that urban life would devour "the magical sources of life."

His ideal was the simple life, self-examination and peace. He also liked simple people, provided they did not appear in masses.

Wiechert saw his role as a spiritual leader. He nurtured his charisma, his status as poet and martyr, and for long refused "to bring politics into the pure sphere of creativity."

It was a foregone conclusion that he would come into conflict with the Nazis. There could be nothing further from the Nazi blood and soil idea that political stability and power depended on unification of race and territory than his novels *Die Jägerkinder* of 1934 and *Die*

*Hirtenmühle* of the following year. The story *Der weiße Rössel* of 1937, however, was a parable of open criticism of the National Socialist system of domination.

His real criticism of National Socialism emerged in the two Munich publications of 1933 and 1935 *Reden an die Jugend*. He wrote: "It is possible that a people can stop seeing the difference between right and wrong... But such a people stands on a slippery slope and it is bound to fall."

These were brave words that were spoken in a lecture to which Nazi cultural officials were invited.

The hour of truth came in 1938. Wiechert was arrested and despatched to the Buchenwald concentration camp.

The two months he spent in the concentration camp were a warning for his insubordination.

As soon as he was released he was invited to read his poetry in Weimar. It is uncertain whether he was invited or ordered there, as Wiechert would have it in his autobiography, *Jahre und Zeiten*.

He was excluded from the Reich's writers society and then taken back. His novel *Das einfache Leben* appeared and became a best-seller in the Third Reich, selling up to 1942 as many as 260,000 copies.

The "seven years of silence" about which Wiechert writes in his autobiography should be understood in a subjective sense.

His novel *Die Jägerkinder* was rejected by the censors on the grounds that it showed no joy in life. During the war this was obligatory.

His other books such as *Wälder und Menschen* and *Die Magie des Jägers* (Hannoversche Allgemeine, 16 May 1987)



Aristocrat of the mind... Ernst Wiechert.

Where have we read this before? "At present the reports on the terrible catastrophe are so contradictory..."

This was anger and a sense of helplessness expressed in newspaper reports. People look around them for the guilty and people in the public eye proclaim: "All human works are but dross."

Don't we recognise all that? And haven't we recently heard the answer from the technicians? They said: "We also have the dead on our battle-fields. It cannot be avoided."

Indeed it is well known that there are risks in technology. But these complaints were not made against the Chernobyl disaster but against disasters that took place 100 years ago.

In the liberal Berlin daily *Österrische Zeitung*, Theodor Fontane and Max Eyth did not know the expression residual risk when on 29 December 1879 the bridge over the Tay in Scotland collapsed and 75 passengers on a train became the first victims of technical miscalculation when the train sank below the waters.

A debate on security got under way, but what good did that do?

Thirty-three years later there was another warning sign, renewed anger and brooding on whether mankind had control over what men created.

The "unsinkable" *Titanic* went down in the Atlantic with hundreds drowned.

For only a short period technology has been able to put fear into the human race for its very existence. More than a

## Man's power, man's inadequacy, man's superficial knowledge

century and a half ago there were catastrophes, wars and earthquakes. From the very beginning of the technical era there have been disasters that have drawn attention to man's power and man's failures, man's inadequacy and man's superficial knowledge and people's ability to close their eyes to potential dangers, either on political or economic grounds.

The progress of such inadequate power can be noted from the number of people affected. There were 75 on the *Titanic*, thousands when the *Titanic* went down and millions on the Continent after Chernobyl.

Technical development is continuously accompanied by re-considerations and doubts as well as heated discussions in defence, found time and time again in any number of academic treatises, pamphlets, articles and novels.

The industrial era has produced its own literature, its own themes and conflicts and its own literary farms.

It would seem a mammoth task to document all this for who would be brave enough to draw up dividing lines and where?

A whole literary epoch is documented in 37 divisions, each reduced to the contents of one glass case.

The concision is good for the theme, for the books, even if they are handwritten manuscripts or second-hand books from the period, are meant to be read not looked at.

Ott regards the exhibition as a matter of stimulating interest, as "a call to visitors to read further."

The exhibition traces this development, industry and technology in literature, the development of what could called a non-relationship between literary and technical culture.

In his speech at the opening of the exhibition physicist and philosopher Friedrich von Weizsäcker said the relationship between the two was not symmetrical. Literature can show the way to an understanding, others, to the wisdom of self-knowledge, which can be applied to self-criticism of society.

But he said that when the two cultures came into conflict then the difference of their weapons led mainly to continuation of their only existing side by side but without having anything to do with one another. A knowledge of the laws of technology gives a power. Literature's more powerful weapon is the word.

Both prove to be inadequate if in question of human problems involving technology. So how should a satisfactory relationship in terms of power be?

Ott quoted from the speech of Nobel Prize-winner Sir John Pearce in 1960. He said: "In the age of nuclear energy will the junks made clay be sufficient for the poet's interactions? Yes, if man thinks of the world. And if the poet is satisfied in being the

Continued on page 11

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## Man's inadequacy

Continued from page 10

bad conscience of his times." The documents exhibited are mainly concerned with criticism and admonition, primarily because of the euphoric belief in progress as such. Both attitudes are represented and the wide spectrum between them.

It begins with machines that ought to imitate man and ends with a desk computer from which visitors can retrieve information about human affairs — primarily the answers from 48 authors on the question of their relationships to technology.

The exhibition highlights the first ecological battle between Gottfried Keller and Justinus Kerner about railways. It highlights "social questions" in the weavers riot, the origins of individual worker literature and contemporary with that the industrialisation of book production.

The exhibition highlights the first technological shocks and dreams of utopia and deterrence, futurism and the drum beat of war, new forms of writing such as reporting, the new media, that are "replacements for dreams," and finally the obligations imposed on literature during the Third Reich.

The exhibition's themes extend to the present, to Günter Grass's *Die Räuber*, but its strength lies in the century before the Second World War.

Peter-Paul Schneider arranged the exhibition and produced the two-volume catalogue. He said that the Third Industrial Revolution was not included in the exhibition. Literature itself must first tackle this to remain true to its role.

Literature is an observer of industrial development, but also an observer reflecting and explaining the history of this development.

Rainer Kästing

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 12 May 1987)



Tipping into tragic catastrophe... John Dew's version of *Les Huguenots*.

(Photo: Jürgen Thiele)

16th century, or the Jews under the Nazi regime as well as the battles in Northern Ireland or South Africa, or the massacres of the two political blues in Berlin.

Why should a work by a Jew concerning St Bartholomew's Eve not be linked to Marcel's famous Huguenot Ariadne, snatched by Jan Hendrik Rootert, cut out. This is meaningfully linked to the opening choral, which has to be eliminated as a consequence. This is going to far.

Gottfried Pilz, who did the sets and costumes, created an ambiguous set of walls, comparable to the time tunnel concept in Friedrich Sykora's *Ring*. Instead of a curtain there is a wall with walled-up windows which rises to reveal the performing area similarly surrounded by walls.

This suggests a court-yard on the Berlin Wall in the Kreuzberg district, a concentration camp or some such other threatening dungeon. The walls are symbols of barriers of any sort — social, religious or political. These can be associated with the generalised party conflicts and the religious persecution of the Huguenots in the

Sa before the action tips into tragic catastrophe, comedy is played out.

The first act is almost like an operetta by Offenbach. The Comte de Nevers (Lenus Carlson) has invited his Catholic friends to a celebration in a set of leather

walls. The well-trained chorus, always in action, was the high point of the production. (Marcus Creed who trained the chorus and who is leaving the opera will be hard to replace.)

Although the musical concept seemed ill-prepared, Jesus Lopez-Cahors brought together what was left of the score with enough care and with regard for quality to make sense of the music that falls between Spahr, Weber, Berlin and late Verdi.

Wagner was no lover of Meyerbeer's

grand opera. He maintained that the music affected audiences without there being any substance in them.

Except for a few small parts the ensemble was of excellent quality. Pilar Lorengar (Valentine) shone out over everyone else with her stage presence and her astonishingly youthful-sounding soprano voice. Her younger colleagues could well emulate her, for she has maintained a high level of musicality in her singing for thirty years.

Her partner, Richard Leech, making his debut as Raoul, was rather put into the shade by her. He is generally regarded as a surprising discovery as a tenor, but he did not have control over his voice and was technically clumsy.

The opera ended and the real curtain fell. Whether the applause at the finale indicated a pseudo success or a long-term revival of Meyerbeer for Berlin only time can tell.

Hanna Niederdorfer

(Handelsblatt, Düsseldorf, 15 May 1987)

## Garbage power

Continued from page 9

They total roughly one gram per cubic metre, including 15 milligrams of organic chlorine compounds, some of which are toxic or carcinogenic.

Minute traces of dioxin and furan isomers led to the decision to purify the gas before processing it.

This filtration stage is specially designed to extract chlorinated hydrocarbons, which have the added disadvantage of being corrosive.

The filtered gas is burnt in three 16-cylinder gas engines, turbo-loaders directly linked to 10,000-volt high-tension generators.

They can generate a maximum 1.5 megawatts. The 6.5 megawatts of process heat consists of roughly half coal and engine oil and half exhaust gas.

The air and water heat is extracted from the engines via a separate water cycle, providing the option of piped heating for a limited number of local residents.

The selective catalytic reduction process is used to drastically reduce the NOx content of the exhaust fumes.

The exhaust is fed a specific admixture of ammonia solution and the nitric oxides emerge from a ceramic catalytic converter as nitrogen and steam.

Dieter Thierbach

(Die Welt, Bonn, 19 May 1987)

**A**lgae (seaweed to the layman) come in all shapes and sizes. There are roughly 25,000 varieties and their uses very widely.

Ingredients of the versatile brown algae, such as alginic acid and alginates, are used to thicken concrete and to stabilise whipped cream.

Ingredients of other members of the Algae family are found in milk drinks, chocolates and candies, while antibiotics are extracted from *Corallina* and *Polysiphonia*, which are varieties of red algae.

Green algae, the variety most often found on the seashore, are held in high repute as a source of human food and animal fodder by virtue of their protein and fat content.

The melting-pot of evolution has even resulted in certain blue algae varieties thriving in hot spring water at temperatures of 70°C, or 144°F.

The self-purification of water depends largely on the varied talents of the mighty microbe (algae are single-cell creatures).

Scientists in contrast see the algae as a natural seismograph. Examined under the microscope, it reveals the quality of the water it has come from.

Some years ago many biologists were seriously worried lest algae might not survive the "chemical mace" of farm fertilisers

and industrial effluent that was pouring into rivers, lakes, the North Sea and the Baltic.

They were worried pollution might kill the algae and turn the seas and lakes biologically sterile dead.

They were mistaken. The opposite happened. The surface of fertiliser-phosphorus and nitrogen compounds was a field-day for algae — and for the micro-organisms that live on them and the fish that live on a diet of micro-organisms.

But the resulting food cycle still threatened to prove fatal for seas and lakes.

Most algae lack natural enemies and die a natural death. Their bodies sink to the seabed or the bed of the lake, where ravenous aerobic bacteria are waiting to convert them into inorganic salts.

The bacteria need enormous amounts of oxygen to fuel this process: the conversion of biomass into minerals.

If a constant number of bacteria are assigned the task of handling dead algae they will soon run out of steam and the much-valued ecological balance will tilt.

The water runs short of oxygen. Dead algae mount up on the seabed or the bed of the lake. Swamp gas — methane — is generated, plus toxic hydrogen sulphide ( $H_2S$ ).

The phosphates absorbed by the algae are no longer converted into minerals. They dissolve in the water instead, providing living algae with more and more food.

The cycle then turns full circle. The water is asphyxiated by algae and dies a green death — progressively, faster year by year, but over a period of years.

Anglers don't notice the change for some time. The surfeit of algae first leads to very bountiful catches.

Later they find their catches consist mainly of white fish rather than the more highly-rated varieties; white fish are less sensitive to oxygen shortage and breed near the shore.

Then comes the first large-scale death of fish, with algae flourishing and increasingly clogging up waterways.

Toxic gases such as  $H_2S$  kill all life. A living lake is transformed into an evil-smelling expanse of effluent.

Eutrophy is the name ecologists give to this process. It means the water, overfertilised,

## ■ THE ENVIRONMENT

# Waterways face asphyxiation from the Green Death

lised, has died of a surfeit of nutrient. An immediate and total ban on pumping untreated effluent, especially liquid manure and detergent waste with their cargo of phosphate, comes too late at this stage.

The water's regenerative powers have grown too weak.

Danish research scientists say this is what has happened in large areas of the North Sea, where wide expanses of seabed are lifeless wastes.

It is hard to resuscitate a lake — and very complicated. The sludge must first be dredged from its bed, and local authorities lack the cash to pay for dredging.

To pump oxygen down to the bed through perforated hosepipes is to run the risk of air bubbles rising to the surface and mixing with water strata otherwise separate and differing in temperature.

Surface layers might soon be permeated by methane, asphyxiating the last fish in the lake.

Muggesfelder See near Bad Segeberg, north of Hamburg, is a lake that has died this green death.

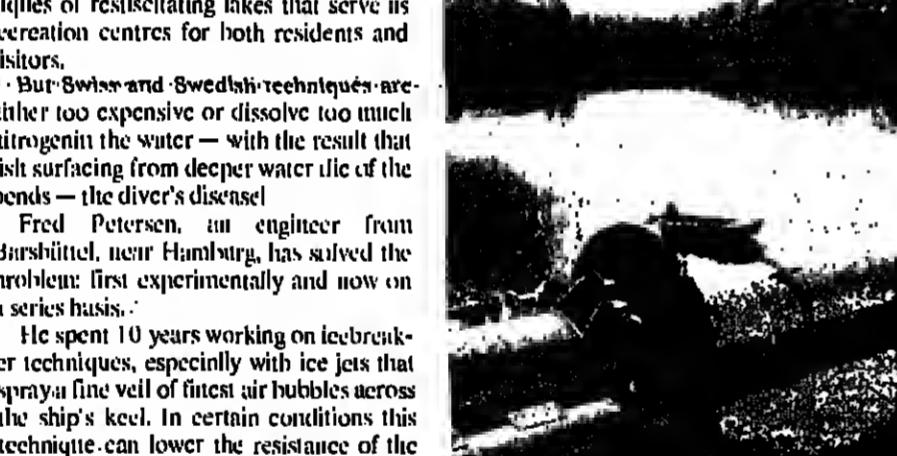
Below four metres the water of what still looks to be an idyllic lake is dead. It is one of 90 lakes that have died the death in Schleswig-Holstein alone.

The local authorities, alarmed by complaints raised by anglers and holidaymakers, are keen to learn about suitable techniques of resuscitating lakes that serve as recreation centres for both residents and visitors.

But Swiss and Swedish techniques are either too expensive or dissolve too much nitrogen in the water — with the result that fish suffocating from deeper water rise to the surface.

Fred Petersen's idea is a combination of successful technology transfer, image-free enterprise and job-creating environmental technology.

Biological processes cannot be reversed



Blowing bubbles. Initial results with Tibaan, the aeration system for deep waterways, have been successful.

## Device monitors rivers, lakes, round the clock

Algae or destroyed by toxins. The environmental authorities are promptly alarmed by cable or wireless. Prompt remedial action can then be undertaken with little delay.

The system registers the presence of a toxin within two to four minutes. It takes about half an hour before the final reading is available.

If need be the device, which is similar in size to a refrigerator and is at present still made by hand in Berlin, can even take its own water samples.

If the water is free from toxins the sensitive bacteria stay alive and use larger quantities of oxygen.

If, in contrast, no more oxygen is consumed, or oxygen consumption plummets, the bacteria have clearly been da-

in a single summer season. It will be while before the lake is considered to have been cured, with a nutrient count that has been restored to normal.

Petersen says a Tibaan cure costs DM500 per hectare, assuming the installation is run 180 days a year for three years.

This was good news for the Ministry of Research and Technology in Bonn which helped to finance the Petersen project. Minister Heinz Riesenhuber invested DM8,300,000 in Tibaan as a pilot project.

Ministry officials were delighted, noting that the system worked at the first attempt, used less power than had been estimated beforehand and was streets ahead of similar schemes in other countries.

Petersen Schifffahrtsklinik GmbH was set up in 1985 as one of the first firms launched under the aegis of the Hamburg technology promotion centre in Hamburg.

It was set up mainly to develop waterjet mucocuring equipment but might now just as well change its name to Petersen Lake Resuscitation Co.

The lake project was originally intended as no more than a second string to the new company's bow. It has since proved so successful that the entire company is concentrating on Tibaan. The entire company consists of a staff of 11, including five engineers. They sell and lease the system to solve problems ranging from biological and chemical analysis to maintenance.

Fred Petersen's idea is a combination of successful technology transfer, image-free enterprise and job-creating environmental technology.

Wolfgang Wiedlich  
(General-Ausziger, Bonn, 10 May 1987)

## ■ MEDICINE

# Ancient Indian method is put to the modern test

Many people turn to alternative medicines if conventional western medical practice cannot help them.

Alternative medicines are generally rejected by the conventional medical profession, but that doesn't mean to say they are all quack treatments.

Many are successful. All that is lacking is acknowledged scientific proof that they work.

Homeopathy and naturopathy are popular. Two traditional but exotic approaches are ayurvedic and unani medicine.

Successful clinical trials of an ayurvedic liver medicine were reviewed at a symposium in Feldafing, near Starnberg, Bavaria, by an associate of Josef Eisenberg's at the internal medicine department of the Brothers of Mercy Hospital in Munich.

The symposium was held by Intermed of Freiburg, a society that has set itself the task of testing traditional medical treatment by the yardsticks of modern Arach counterpoint.

The Arabs brought this knowledge with them in their later invasions of southern Europe.

In its country of origin Ayurveda steadily declined in status under British colonial rule. But independent India soon recalled its medical heritage.

The first ayurvedic research institute was set up in 1954 and roughly 300,000 ayurvedic practitioners now help the sick in South Asia.

The Charaka Samhita, written by an

interest in traditional Indian medicine has grown in Europe and America, with pharmaceutical companies taking the lead — and not, as might have been expected, alternative groups.

The first multinational pharmaceutical company to set up a research facility in India did so in the early 1960s. Others followed suit.

Their aim is to identify in Indian medicinal herbs substances that can be put to pharmaceutical use. But so far they have had little success.

Research scientists who have analysed Chinese drugs for pharmaceutical substances have been similarly unsuccessful.

"Current screening procedures usually extract herbal ingredients by means of standard methods," says Paul Unschedl, head of Munich University department of medical history.

The points that kill the pain and cut the time of labour are on the head and hands and the inside of one thigh. Needles are inserted as soon as labour starts and kept in position until childbirth is over.

The effect of acupuncture can be enhanced by attaching the needles to a low-voltage electrical stimulation device.

Acupuncture treatment has been scientifically proved to kill pain. The endorphine content, or concentration of the body's own opiates, proves the point.

This pain-killer effect is not the only feature that makes acupuncture an ideal obstetric technique.

Dr Stux says its relaxing and reassuring influence on the patient's mind brings about a crucial improvement in the course of childbirth.

Learning acupuncture techniques is easier said than done for German doctors. It has yet to be acknowledged as a treatment by the General Medical Council.

So doctors have to rely on their own initiative and on the courses offered by five acupuncture societies in various parts of the country.

All five are run by conventional doctors and not by non-medical practitioners. All offer, in a self-help basis, a wide range of courses in the traditional Chinese technique.

"Patients were released in a condition we have failed to achieve with previously available treatments," he says.

In the Federal Republic of Germany Liv. 52 is not yet licensed as a patent medicine. The Federal Health Office, Berlin, feels further tests are needed. The Swiss medical authorities have, in contrast, already licensed it.

"What we want," said Christoph von Kudell, "is to concentrate on probing traditional medicine for possibilities of treating chronic complaints for which conventional Western medicine has yet to come up with satisfactory treatments."

Difficulties are likely to arise in adopting Asian techniques. "There is only a handful of standard categories of complaints," says Paul Unschedl. "They include leprosy, malaria, diarrhoea in children and premature birth."

Chinese medicine and Ayurveda, he explains, are mainly based on diagnostic criteria that are not in keeping with modern diseases, which are specific to contemporary civilisation.

A Chinese medicine that is claimed to cure yin deficiency in the liver is hard to pigeonhole in the modern spectrum of complaints. Yet traditional medicine is still a treasure trove of unknown experience.

"Only two of the 7,000 textbooks on Chinese medicine published before 1930," Unschedl says, "have been seriously translated into Western languages."

Christine Broll  
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 21 May 1987)

## Acupuncture as a child-birth pain killer

Acupuncture is recommended by a growing number of gynaecologists and obstetricians in the Federal Republic of Germany as a pain-killer during confinement — and more and more pregnant women are trying it.

Inserting needles in a handful of the 361 acupuncture points in the body, says Gabriel Stux, head of the German Acupuncture Society, Düsseldorf, can reduce the time of delivery by up to half.

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All five are run by conventional doctors and not by non-medical practitioners. All offer, in a self-help basis, a wide range of courses in the traditional Chinese technique.

Courses are particularly well attended in Düsseldorf, where even professors have been known to exchange the lecture for the desk.

"Doctors, medical students and midwives need to be given first-rate training," Dr Stux says. "If we are to ensure that acupuncture is not just regarded as an exotic treatment that is inapplicable in Western civilisations."

He is also keen to ensure that what sees as a valuable means of treatment is not brought into disrepute by charlatans.

That is why German acupuncture specialists would like to see standard teaching and examination procedures adopted — along the lines of specialist training in other branches of medicine.

Dr Stux says between 4,000 and 5,000 doctors have been trained in acupuncture in the Federal Republic and between 2,000 and 3,000 use it on patients. These figures are low in comparison with other European countries. In France, Austria and Sweden, for instance, acupuncture has long been an accepted medical discipline — and is taught at university.

Health insurance schemes pay for acupuncture treatment in these countries. In the Federal Republic they usually don't. Only a handful foot the bill, and then only on special application.

"In Germany," Dr Stux says, "acupuncture is often tried as a last resort when all else has failed. It ought to be the other way round."

Vera Zylka

(Die Welt, Bonn, 22 May 1987)

## Meteorological stations all over the world



supplied the data arranged in see-at-a-glance tables in these new reference works. They include details of air and water temperature, precipitation, humidity, sunshine, physical stress of climate, wind conditions and frequency of thunderstorms.

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Ulfrich Paul

(Die Welt, Bonn, 21 May 1987)

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## ■ FRONTIERS

## What's in a name? Quite a lot, apparently

## DER TAGES SPIEGEL

The wife shall be subservient to the husband and take his name. That is not a quotation from the Bible but from Prussian Common Law enacted in 1794.

This was the first time that German law established that a wife should bear the name of her husband — to that date this custom had not been followed and certainly not in all parts of Germany.

Since 1794 it has been in writing and came to be regarded as natural law. All members of a family use a uniform name. So it is that Frau Müller has the same name as Herr Müller. Daughter Gabi and son Hermann also have their father's surname. Nothing could be more practical.

But what if Frau Müller sees in her maiden name, Valentin, something more than just a name, in fact she sees in it something of her personality and identity?

Professionally she was known as Frau Valentin, so she decides to adopt a double-barrelled name, Valentin-Müller. But in the end she is not happy with this solution either.

She is not alone in her dissatisfaction. More and more married women and women lawyers have become increasingly critical of legislation covering married names, so that now the matter has come before the Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe.

A decision has to be made on a submission made by the Tübingen district court whether the compulsion to adopt a uniform family name is contrary to Basic Law or not.

Legislation concerning surnames has had to relent a lot in recent times. Before 1976 the only solution available to women was to affix their maiden name to that of their husband's surname — which was quickly a dead letter as a result of family usage.

Then legislation made a concession to women. Today husband and wife can jointly decide upon the family name, that is whether they will use the husband's or the wife's surname as the family name.

Husband and wife must both use this family name. The partner whose name is not used can use his or her surname in front of the family name, creating a double-barrelled name.

Both partners cannot have a double-barrelled name. The children can only use the family name.

That sounds very fair, but in practice it is not. Experience has shown that it is always the wife who has to adopt an unpopular double-barrelled name. Few men give up their surname or are prepared to use a double-barrelled name.

More often the family name and the surname used by the children is that of the husband. Furthermore the law helps this arrangement along a little: if the couple cannot agree on a surname then the family automatically uses the husband's surname.

The Tübingen district court found that this was not exactly the ideal solution, and have made public these doubts in the 18 January 1987 issue of *Europäische Grundrechtszeitung* along

with two women lawyers from Freiburg, Nina Dethloff and Susanne Walther.

They argue that the compulsion for a uniform family name, which means that either the husband or wife must surrender or change their surname, is an excessive infringement of legislation covering surnames as well as on the rights of the individual.

By using a double-barrelled name partners do indeed retain their previous surname, but the name becomes unsignable or risible.

They maintain that the right to one's own name, which the constitution guarantees everyone, is disregarded by this kind of parody.

The double-barrelled name shows two things: that the women who bears it is married and to whom she is wed, two features that should not have to be divulged at random.

The two lawyer writers of the article regard this as an encroachment into the individual sphere. The individual should have control over what is made public and what not.

Dethloff and Walther also criticise the regulation that if there is dispute over the surname then the husband's name is automatically used.

One does not need to be a lawyer to recognise that this regulation is not in harmony with equal rights legislation in Basic Law.

What would be the simplest solution then? The Tübingen district court does

## The only child 'has undeserved reputation', says survey

The only child's reputation of being doted on by father and mother, of being spoiled, stubborn, shy and pitiable, is undeserved says a study.

Tomas G. Kürti, of the education institute at the Aachen technical university, found that there are more problems with middle children than with only children.

Kürti, who says he has an only child which is developing completely normally, carried out the survey with Ulrich Ünzen, Sabine Vuth and Andrea Körwitz. A thousand students at the university were questioned. There are plans to have the results published as a book.

Because of the results, middle children are to be the subject of another study. The German research institute, DFG, has already given its approval.

Kürti said the findings showed that the only child was friendly and approachable and had positive attitudes.

Girls were even more balanced than boys.

Comparisons were made with middle children: 72 per cent of only children considered their families to be open-minded but only 62 per cent of middle children; 39.7 per cent of middle children compared with 25 per cent of only children said their families were authoritarian.

The only child should not be the central point of family life and should not be protected from the less pleasant things of the world. Still less should a mother use her only child as a substitute for an unloving husband.

Kürti says the only child is a typical

along with the view expressed by Nina Dethloff and Susanne Walther that both partners in a marriage should be able to retain their surname. A uniform name could be chosen for the children, either the husband's or the wife's.

It is uncertain whether the Constitutional Court will go along with this demand. The idea of a uniform family name is the darling of many, mainly male, lawyers. They see marriage and family in danger if parents have different surnames.

Nina Dethloff and Susanne Walther have produced surprising counter-evidence. In most Western countries, in which marriage and family are much more highly regarded than in this country, there is no compulsion to have a uniform family name.

Even in Catholic Ireland, where divorce is forbidden, the wife is free to use her maiden name — the same is true for the USA, England, France, Spain, Belgium, Portugal, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, the Scandinavian countries and some Latin American states.

There are no statistics to show how frequently this choice is used and whether this is viable in ordinary daily life. But from the legal point of view there is no prohibition for a woman to use her maiden name.

It is possible to question the view that the marriage and family are protected by the use of a uniform surname. Many young women regard the compulsion to surrender their maiden name or change their name as an obstacle in the way of a successful marriage.

Who knows, perhaps the marriage statistics would show up if the Constitutional Court voted for a change of married name legislation.

Dorothee Nolte  
(Der Tagespiegel, Berlin, 17 May 1987)

middle-class, white-collar phenomenon. Wealthier and poorer families mostly had bigger families.

However, middle-class families had a generally more highly-developed sense of education and gave much more encouragement to their children to perform well at school.

The reason that the only girl tended to outperform the only boy might be connected with the fact that mothers of only children resumed careers more quickly than other mothers and thus offered their daughters a double-identification: as a housewife and as a breadwinner. This perhaps showed the girl a different perspective and another incentive.

Some learned lawyers would now approve of a man having several but a wife having several husbands.

Legislators did not let themselves

impressed by this discussion. At the time they threatened to ban anyone for guilty of bigamy.

Mikat found an interesting point of view from Carl Gottlieb Suarez, creator of Prussian Common Law of 1794.

The learned Suarez said that nature had nothing against a man having more than one wife if he could feed her and provided he had the constitution able to fulfil what was the aim of marriage: many wives then polygamy was allowable.

Nevertheless the state's command: monogamy was wise, he believed, because it brought about peace and harmony in family. It also prevented men from having many wives that could give rise to the danger of the depletion of the lower classes.

The whole discussion came to an

with the Romantic idea of the "intimacy between two people" as being the highest ideal of marriage.

Gisela Boschlmann

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 19 May 1987)

## How Romantic ideal ended bigamy debate

The law states that each person may only have one partner in marriage. But 200 years ago there was in Germany considerable debate and against polygamy.

Two royal cases of polygamy brought this explosive theme into public view, according to Paul Mikat, 62, professor of law at Bochum University.

Mikat, a former North Rhine-Westphalia Education Minister, for many years a CDU member of the Bundestag and now a government adviser, presented his findings on polygamy at the North Rhine-Westphalia Scientific Academy in Düsseldorf.

He discovered that monogamy was common among the Teutons in pre-

## STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

Christian times. The only exception was among the nobility.

For a long time, under the influence of Christianity, there was no dispute that the law of God and Nature demanded monogamy.

Then came the Landgrave Philipp Hesse, one of the most important supporters of the Reformation. He sought to take as his second wife the beautiful lady-in-waiting Margarete von der Steine.

According to Mikat, Martin Luther agreed to a dispensation on the grounds that bigamy was better than divorce.

The Landgrave married on 5 March 1541 and it should have remained secret. But soon it was common knowledge all over Germany that the prince had concluded a second marriage with approval of the Church. This set off the discussion on polygamy.

This reached its height in the 17th century when famous lawyers could no longer justify polygamy as against law. Both partners in marriage could do what they pleased. This was the sign of equal opportunity for both sexes.

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Horst Zimmermann

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 20 May 1987)

## ■ SPORT

## Pack of talent at the heels of Steffi Graf

Steffi Graf has won six tennis championships this year. Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert, the pair who have dominated women's tennis for more than a decade, haven't won any. This month is the French Open, the first of the Grand Slam titles. It is followed by Wimbledon, now the only major tournament still played on grass. It is in these two arenas that Graf will be trying to demonstrate what everyone thinks: that she is now the top player in women's tennis. But she is not the only West German woman on the way up. Behind her is a pack ready to explode on the world of top tennis. Here, in the *Deutsche Allgemeine Sonntagsblatt*, Heidi Ahrens takes a look at Germany's rising stars.

Claudia Porwiek is another who needs to work at her game. In Berlin she was beaten by Graf. She gave very little resistance and admits she avoided being drawn into long rallies. But there is no doubt that she can play. She is 98th in the world rankings and reached the final of the Taiwan tournament this year where she was beaten by Anne Minter. In Berlin, she beat American Kathy Horvath.

Another up-and-comer is Probst, from Nuremberg, who this year has climbed 15 places in the world rankings to 115th. She is no longer one of those players for whom the first round is always the last.

Christina Singer, from Göppingen, is ranked 151st. She won the German junior titles in 1984 and 1985 and high expectations have been placed in her. She plays aggressively with good control. She varies her game well and is clever.

Steffi Graf won her sixth title of the year when she beat fellow-German Claudia Kohde-Kilsch in Berlin to win the West German open. This makes her favourite for the French title next month.

Graf is still only 17 and her position on the threshold of knocking Martina Navratilova from the pedestal of women's tennis is looked upon with awe by her fellow players.

Claudia Porwiek regards Steffi as "the talent of the century" against whom others shouldn't be measured.

Germany's success is disconcerting in that other players are also highly talented: Kohde-Kilsch, loser of the Berlin final, is 23; Bettina Bunge, 20; and Eva Pfaff, a ripe old 26.

Kohde-Kilsch, Pfaff, Bunge and Graf are in the world's top 50 players. Only the Americans have more. Behind them is a group including Porwiek, 18, Silke Meier, 18, Isabel Cetto, 18, Christina Singer, 18, and Wilma Pfeiffer, 23; and Eva Pfaff, a ripe old 26.

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